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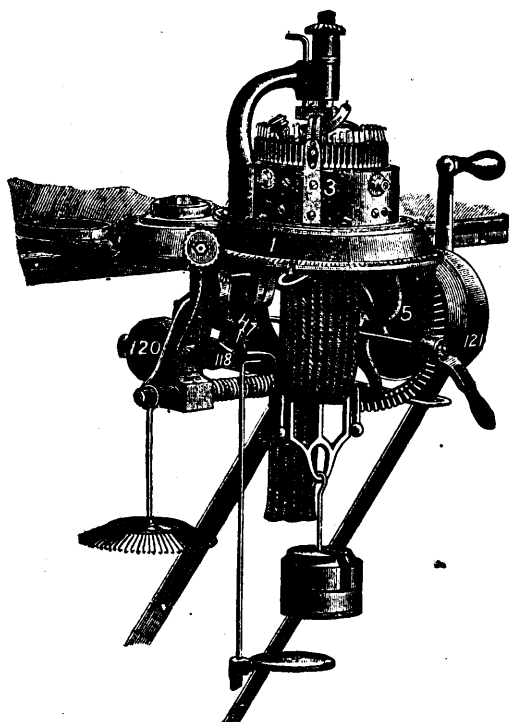
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from various ores containing the necessary metals. The economic aspects of the method are favorable, the metal requiring about two to five hundredweights of carbide for its production.

The relations between the iron and carbide industries are becoming more intimate since the appearance of an invention which utilizes carbide for the production of converted steel as well as for the hardening of armour-plate after Harvey's process. Acetylene for gas engines and motor-cars has probably a great future before it as 160 litres of acetylene give one h. p., as against 600 litres of coal gas.

In those cases where cheap water or other power is available, acetylene has not been able to compete seriously with electricity as an illuminant, but in the absence of favorable conditions for the generation of electricity, it has made remarkable progress in Germany, in spite of the competition of coal gas, for the lighting of small towns and villages. Dr. Rose discusses the comparative risk from fire by the use of electricity and acetylene, and shows that there is no greater element of danger in the use of acetylene for lighting and other purposes, than in the use of coal gas or petroleum.—Commercial Intelligence.

GUATEMALA.—The United States Consul at Guatemala has wired to Washington as follows on the openings for trade in that country:—

After a careful investigation among the importers of Guatemala, I find that the cheap and flashy articles attract the buyer rather than those more expensive but of quiet coloring. The articles of hose and underwear imported for local use are of the cheapest grade. For the past few months I have endeavored to ascertain the reason for the monopoly of the import trade by England, France and Germany. I find that all these countries have resident salesmen here, with display rooms in which to show their goods. This affords the dealers an opportunity to select from numberless varieties of fabrics and qualities, and by this means telegraphic orders can be sent, and the goods arrive in a reasonably short time. The representatives of the foreign houses usually make their headquarters in this city, having their warehouses stocked to supply the immediate wants of the trade. When business is quiet here, they make trips into Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica, carrying with them all necessary samples, and supplying from their headquarters at Guatemala City. This resident system is also a protection to their houses, for, if a firm has financial difficulties, they are on the spot to protect their principals, and usually get their accounts in money or goods.

According to Mr. McNally, American Consul at Guatemala, there is an opening in the Republic for the sale of inexpensive cooking stoves. Those sold at present he thinks are rather too large or too expensive.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Dr. Ormandy, of St. Helen's, formerly master of science at the Gamble Technical Institute, has recently discovered a process by which good furnace bricks can be made from glass-works refuse. The millions of tons of refuse which have accumulated around the glass-works at St. Helen's have heretofore been treated as of no commercial value. The refuse consists mainly of spent sand, minute particles of glass, and about three per cent. of iron from the various processes, and it has hitherto been considered that the presence of the iron prevented the use of the material for the